

ZOOGOER



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ZooGoer (ISSN: 06313-416X) is published six times a year by Friends of the National Zoo, National Zoological Park, Washington, D.C. 20008. Third class mailing permit 44282.

Subscription as percentage of full membership dues is \$4 a year. Subscription-only membership is \$5 a year and is available only to institutions and to those residing outside the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area.

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Volume 10, Number 5
September-October 1981

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Front Cover

The Nile hippopotamus spends the day in the water but comes out at night to graze on grasslands. It is no coincidence that the four largest land mammals—hippos, rhinos, elephants, and giraffes—are all vegetarians; no meat-eater could gather enough food to support the body size of these creatures. Meat-eating is an inefficient way to get energy for it requires a lot of energy to get a meal. Plant-eaters may have to eat a lot, but the plants are there for the taking. Hippos are found in rivers and lakes in Africa, south of the Sahara.

(From What's for Lunch by Sally Tongren. Copyright 1981 by GMG Publishing. Reprinted by permission.)

Photograph by Jessie Cohen, NZP Office of Graphics and Exhibits.



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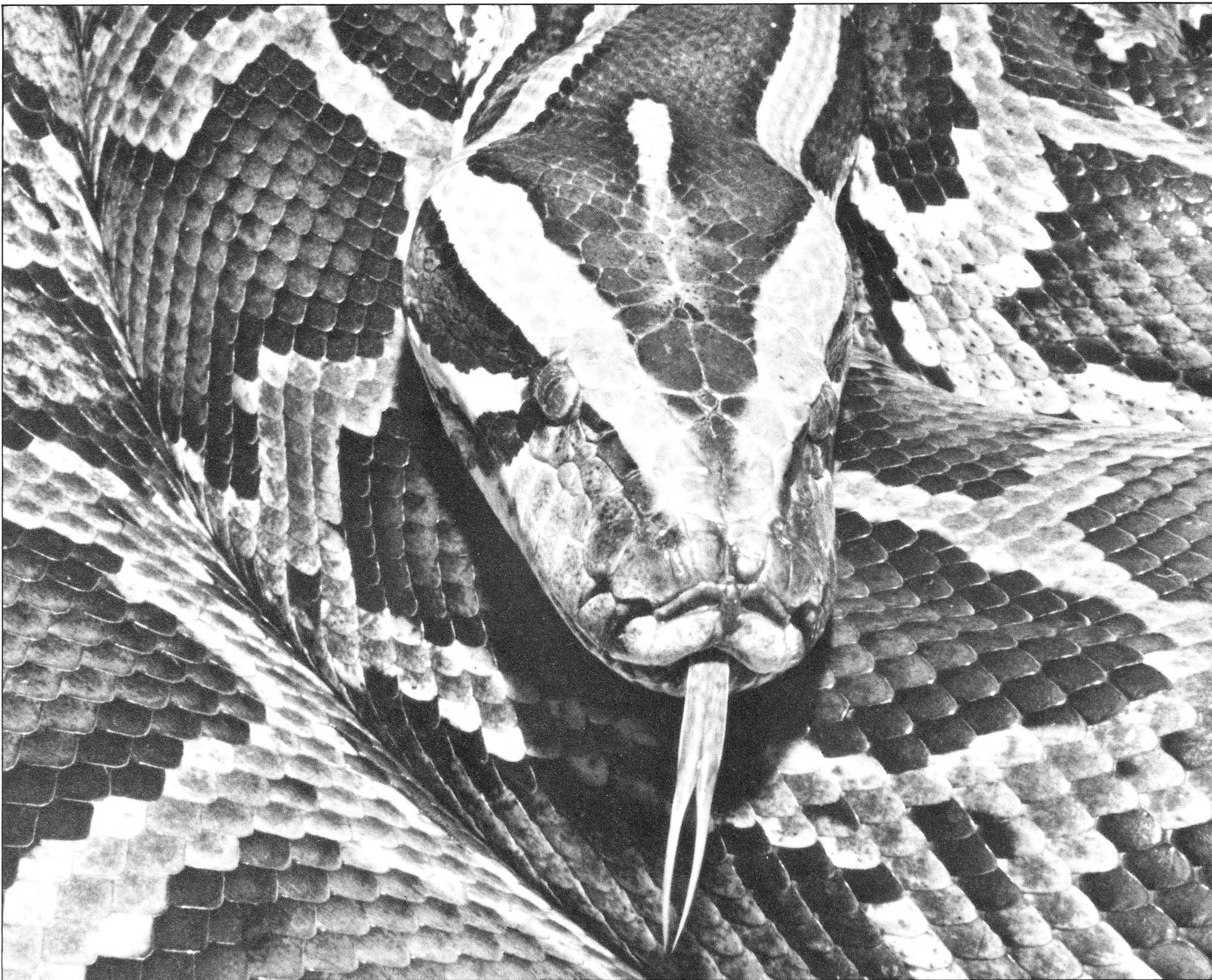


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Burmese Python (*Python molurus bivittatus*). Pythons and boa constrictors kill their prey by suffocation. They seize the animal with a bite and then throw coils around it, squeezing it and keeping it from breathing. These big pythons can eat prey up to the size of a small deer, swallowing it and then lying with a bulge in their middles, waiting for several weeks before eating again. Burmese pythons are among the few reptiles that take any interest in their eggs once they are laid. The female coils herself around the eggs and by spasmodic muscular contractions manages to raise her body temperature a few degrees, thus assuring a more even temperature for the developing embryos.

Natural food: Deer; rabbits; large lizards; birds; toads. **Zoo diet:** Rabbits or rats fed every other week; amounts vary.

The Free Lunch

Sally Tongren

The National Zoo is located within Rock Creek Park, a scenic strip of woodland in the heart of Washington, D.C. Rock Creek, a good-sized stream, runs through the area, and the park's 1754 acres are sufficiently spacious and forested to furnish homes for a variety of native wildlife. Crows, cardinals, blue jays, vultures, hawks, even pileated woodpeckers, are found there. There are beavers in all parts of Rock Creek Park, as well as muskrats, chipmunks, mice, flying squirrels, opossums, raccoons, and foxes.

This article is adapted from What's for Lunch? by FONZ Volunteer and House Guide Sally Tongren. The book is available at the FONZ Bookstore/Gallery or by mail. (See the special mail order form in this issue.) Copyright 1981 by GMG Publishing. Reprinted by permission.

A few of these animals keep their distance. Most, however, make frequent trips to the Zoo grounds as "free lunchers" to take advantage of the vast amounts of food found here. On a winter morning, there may be as many as thirty-five black vultures perched in the trees around the Bird House or hopping along the walks, plus another thirty-five or forty down near the bear enclosures. Vultures are not everyone's favorite creature, but they are quite tame and give visitors a first-hand look at birds they usually only see as a speck in the sky or as pairs of great wings soaring over open country. The vultures are attracted by whatever food they can pick up, especially fish and meat from the bears. Also, the vultures can see captive eagles and vultures rather snugly enjoying their morning meals inside their cages and are probably looking for a chance to share.

Vultures have a long association with the Zoo. Some used to roost on nearby apartment buildings, probably warming their toes on the escaping heat during winter nights. In 1902, Samuel Pierpont Langley, then Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, had observation towers built at the Zoo from which vultures could be seen and photographed in flight. He felt that closer observation of the birds, which are master gliders, would help him build a flying machine. Langley's machine never flew, but the vultures remain, circling high on fine winter mornings and seeming often to interest visitors as much as the most exotic birds in the cages.

Black-crowned herons until recently had a nesting colony in the tall beech tree next to the Outdoor Flight Cage. They were attracted by free fish, which they stole at will



Black-Tailed Prairie Dog (*Cynomys ludovicianus*). These prairie dogs are found in the Great Plains and the Rocky Mountain States. They are not dogs, but rodents. Very social animals, they build extensive "towns" made up of many burrows. The burrow mouth is surrounded by a cone of earth that prevents flooding during heavy rains. The burrow may go down ten feet or more and then branch out into nesting burrows.

Natural food: Grasses; herbs; low plants. **Zoo diet for one animal daily:** 1/4 cup rodent mix; 5 rat pellets; 1/2 leaf kale.

from the ducks and pelicans in the outdoor enclosures. In the trees they courted, built their big nests of twigs and sticks, and raised their families. But when the Bird House was re-modeled a few years ago, many fish-eating birds were switched to meat diets. The supply of free fish dried up, and most of the herons departed. They are one group of free lunchers that are missed; a few fish was a small price to pay for the beauty and activity of the heron colony.

The Flight Cage has a good-sized population of uninvited guests. Sparrows, cow birds, chipmunks, and others find gaps in the wire and wiggle in to get food. Some come and go seasonally, but others stay year around. Outside there are pigeons and starlings, the prize pests of any city birdfeeder. They eat a tremendous amount of the Zoo's food and may carry disease to both human beings and Zoo creatures. The Zoo regularly traps pigeons to check for illnesses. Several species of wild ducks also visit the Zoo. The duck ponds are kept open all winter by virtue of fast-moving water, and there is always food, so wild mallards, teal, and widgeon descend to join the permanent residents. They are avid eaters, and they may also carry a number of serious waterfowl diseases. But no one has come up with an answer as yet except to shoo them away every so often.

Wild birds enter the enclosures of most Zoo animals, but often they do so at their peril. In the Elephant House, there are squirrel monkeys that live above the elephants and hippos. These little monkeys have quick paws and a taste for birds, so a sparrow's hunt for a free meal may end in a fast snatch and a drift of feathers.

Raccoons and occasional foxes, hawks, and owls pose more serious problems. Their hunting may take them to the duck ponds where the Zoo's birds, wings clipped so they can't fly away, are easy prey. These predators seem to have an unerring eye for the most valuable birds in the collection. Some enclosures have electric fences around them to protect the birds at night, but often the flock has to be moved close to the Bird House until the predator is trapped.

And then there are mice and rats. In a place where food is stored in large quantities, and where animals regularly spill grain, fruit, and meal from their mangers and dishes, these rodents have a field day. Mice delight children. Somehow kids always spot the mouse in the enclosure of a lion or panda and seem to take special pleasure in the tiny animal's antics. But it is hard to control the rodents. It isn't possible to use poisons because a Zoo animal might eat the mouse and get the poison. About all



Two-Toed Sloth (*Choloepus didactylus*). Sloths live slow lives hanging suspended from tree branches. Their toes end in long hooked claws that grasp branches and also serve to pull leaves over for the animal to munch on. Their fur grows from front to back and is furrowed so that algae often live on it, giving it a greenish tinge. Sloths are common in the rainforests from Central America to Brazil. They are almost helpless on the ground although they can swim well when necessary. Sloths have a complex stomach that allows them to eat leaves.

Natural food: Leaves; twigs, fruit. **Zoo diet for one animal daily:** Handful of kale; 1/3 carrot; 1/3 sweet potato; 1/2 can primate diet; 1 banana, unpeeled; 2 green beans; 2 monkey biscuits; bamboo occasionally.



Moluccan Salmon-Crested Cockatoo (*Cacatua molleucensis*). Cockatoos are among the most spectacular members of the parrot family. Their powerful beaks can shear open the hardest nuts. At the London Zoo, a child with a nutcracker could race with a cockatoo to see which could open a Brazil nut first. The cockatoo always won. These birds come from the Moluccan Islands in the East Indies.

Natural food: Fruit; seeds, berries, insects. **Zoo diet daily:** Fruit pan of banana, orange, apple; peanut butter sandwich; corn on the cob; chopped kale; parrot pellets.

that can be done is to set traps and keep food out of their reach. The Zoo would be a perfect place to market the proverbial better mouse trap.

Despite the problems they cause, most takers of free lunches are viewed by Zoo personnel with a benign eye. Not so the *givers* of free lunches—the visitors who cannot refrain from tossing food to the animals. Most zoos today discourage or forbid feeding of animals by the public, but the rule is hard to enforce.

Visitors will even lean on a *No Feeding* sign to throw food into an enclosure. We all like to feed animals; feeding is a link, a relationship, no matter how temporary. It makes the animal aware of the visitor, and all zoos have those people who come, perhaps daily, to visit a favorite animal. But Zoo animals receive good, plentiful diets. Extra food is no favor—and may even be a danger.

Certain Zoo animals have become accomplished beggars. Monkeys, elephants, and bears are the worst. Elephants will eat almost anything offered, and the list of things that elephants have taken and eaten runs from chewing tobacco to ladies' gloves and handbags. After a summer weekend, the elephants are apt to look bleary-eyed, as if saying, "I can't believe I ate the *whole thing*," and digestive upsets often follow. At best, the animal eats less of its proper

food as a result of the dozens of free morsels given by visitors. At worst, the animal's life may be threatened. One visitor offered an elephant a can of cashews, apparently expecting it to take one or two daintily. Instead, the elephant snatched and ate the aluminum can. The shocked visitor was responsible enough to report the incident to the keeper, the elephant was watched for thirty-six hours, and no harm resulted. But this escape was pure luck. The animal could easily have died. Elephants are curious and will grab anything. It gives everyone in the Zoo chills to see visitors holding small children out over the guard rail to feed these four-ton animals.

Monkeys will also take anything, and there are always some people who offer lighted cigarettes, lipsticks, and such. Monkeys are very susceptible to human diseases such as measles and colds. To take something out of your mouth and give it to a monkey is to risk its health—even its life.

Bears are the other great beggars, and keepers have a hard time managing the diet of these dangerous animals because of the way the public treats them. People will toss anything into the bear enclosures—plastic cups, paper bags, popcorn, marshmallows, golf balls—anything throwable, edible or not. At one time the National Zoo sold food for the bears, thinking



Celebes Crested Macaque (*Macaca nigra*). The Celebes macaque is a stocky monkey from the Celebes Islands. Although they are good tree climbers, running along branches on all fours and leaping from one tree to another, they spend much of their time on the ground. They have a good precision grip between thumb and forefinger and can pick up and handle small seeds and other bits of food with ease.

Natural food: Fruits; roots; young leaves; insects; grubs; seeds. **Zoo diet for eight animals daily:** A.M.: 1-1/2 cans primate diet; 8 ozs. monkey biscuits; 8 ozs. kale; 8 ozs. beans. P.M.: 2 ozs. cabbage; 8 ozs. beans; 2 ozs. peas and carrots; 8 ozs. kale; 2 cans primate diet; 8 ozs. monkey biscuit; vegetable du jour.



Short-Tailed Bat (*Carollia perspicillata*). These bats live on fruit, nectar, and pollen. They are found from Mexico to southern Brazil. Other bats, which feed on insects, find their food by echo location, sending out high-pitched squeaks and judging the location of their food by the returning echos. Fruit bats navigate in this way, but find fruit by scent. They roost in trees, caves, and abandoned buildings during the day.

Natural food: Guavas; bananas; wild figs; some insects. **Zoo diet daily:** Bat nectar of 3 tbsp. cereal, 1 tsp. wheat germ, 2 tsp. milk powder, 5-1/2 tsp. sugar, 1 tsp. protein supplement, vitamins, and minerals, 263 ml. peach nectar, water, banana and corn oil; bananas hung in enclosure.

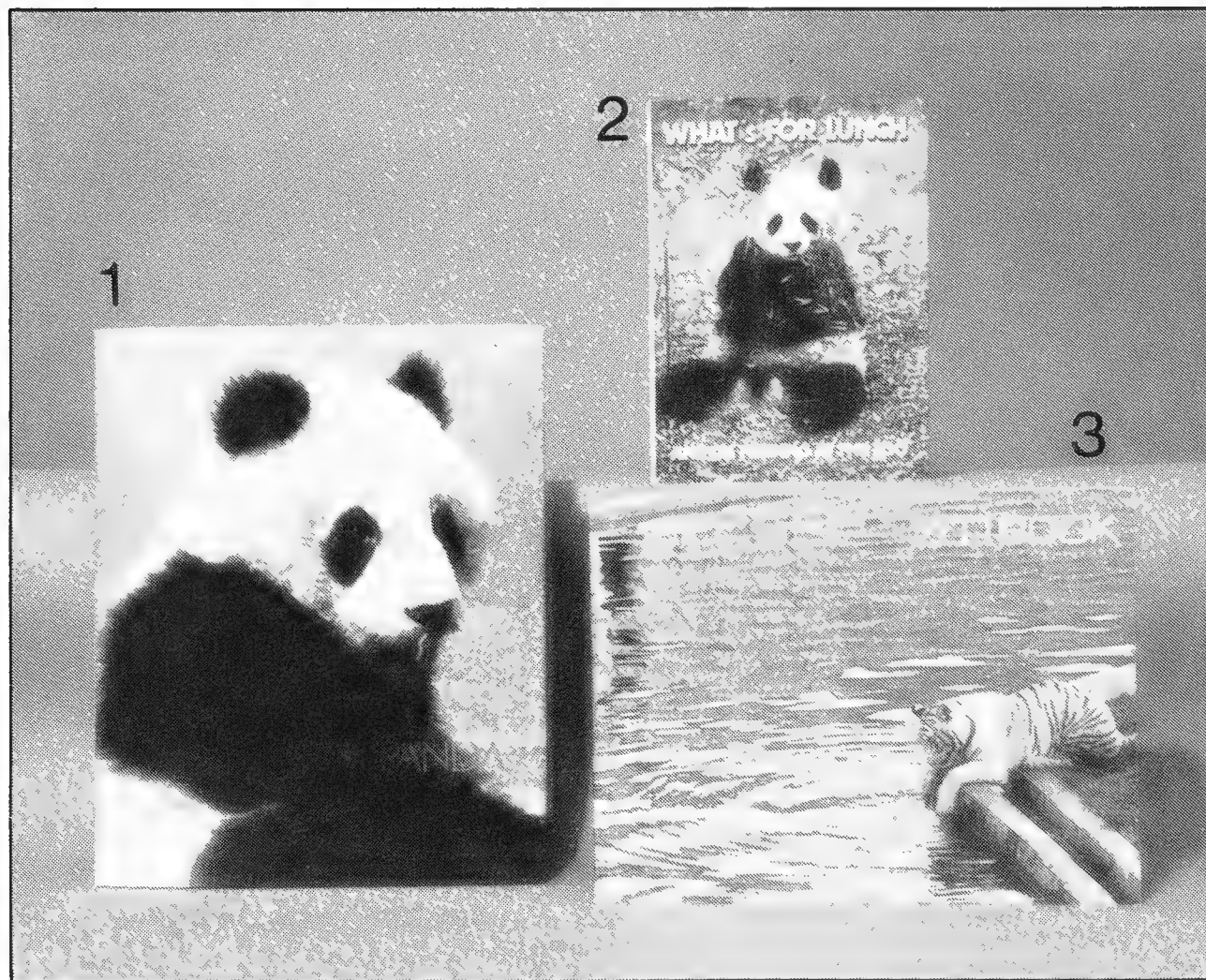
that at least they would get something nutritious flung into their cages. But it didn't help, and so the practice was dropped. Some zoos do use vending machines that dispense duck food or monkey pellets, but these represent an attempt to please the public, not an effort to feed the animals.

Often, animals are thrown things they will never eat. Ducks don't like popcorn. Giraffes do not care for ham sandwiches and will simply investigate and leave them for the mice and rats and pigeons. Money thrown to the sea lions will not make your wish come true, but it might well kill an animal that thinks the silvery flash is a fish.

Every zoo has its tragic stories of animals killed by sick people on the other side of the fence. Drugged meat, razor blades in apples, aspirin—all sorts of things—have been recorded. When you see a *Do Not Feed* sign at any zoo or animal park, it does not mean that management is trying to spoil the fun; it is a serious reminder that there is no such thing as a free lunch.

The photographs accompanying this article are from What's for Lunch and were taken by Jessie Cohen of the NZP Office of Graphics and Exhibits.

FONZ Gift Catalogue



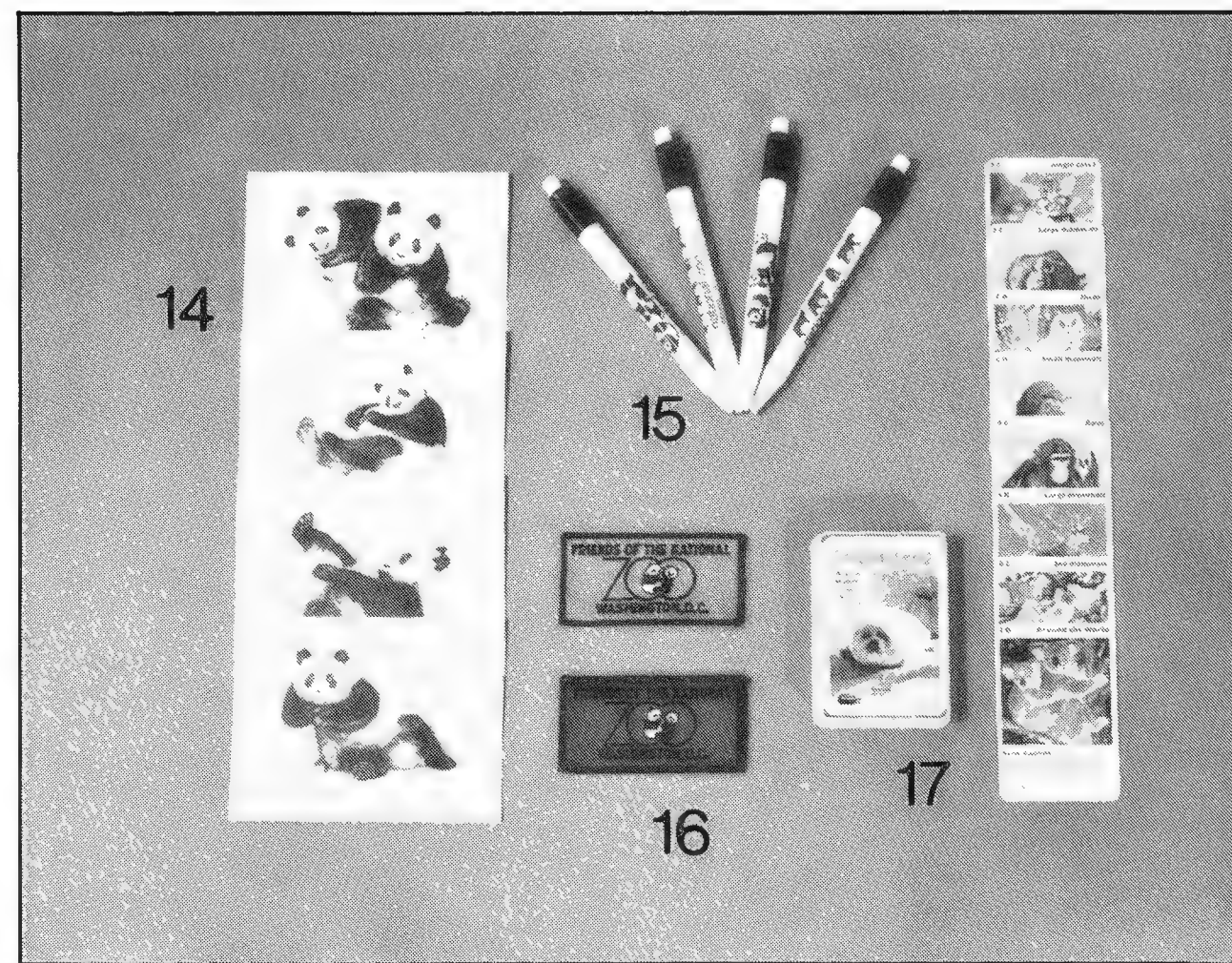
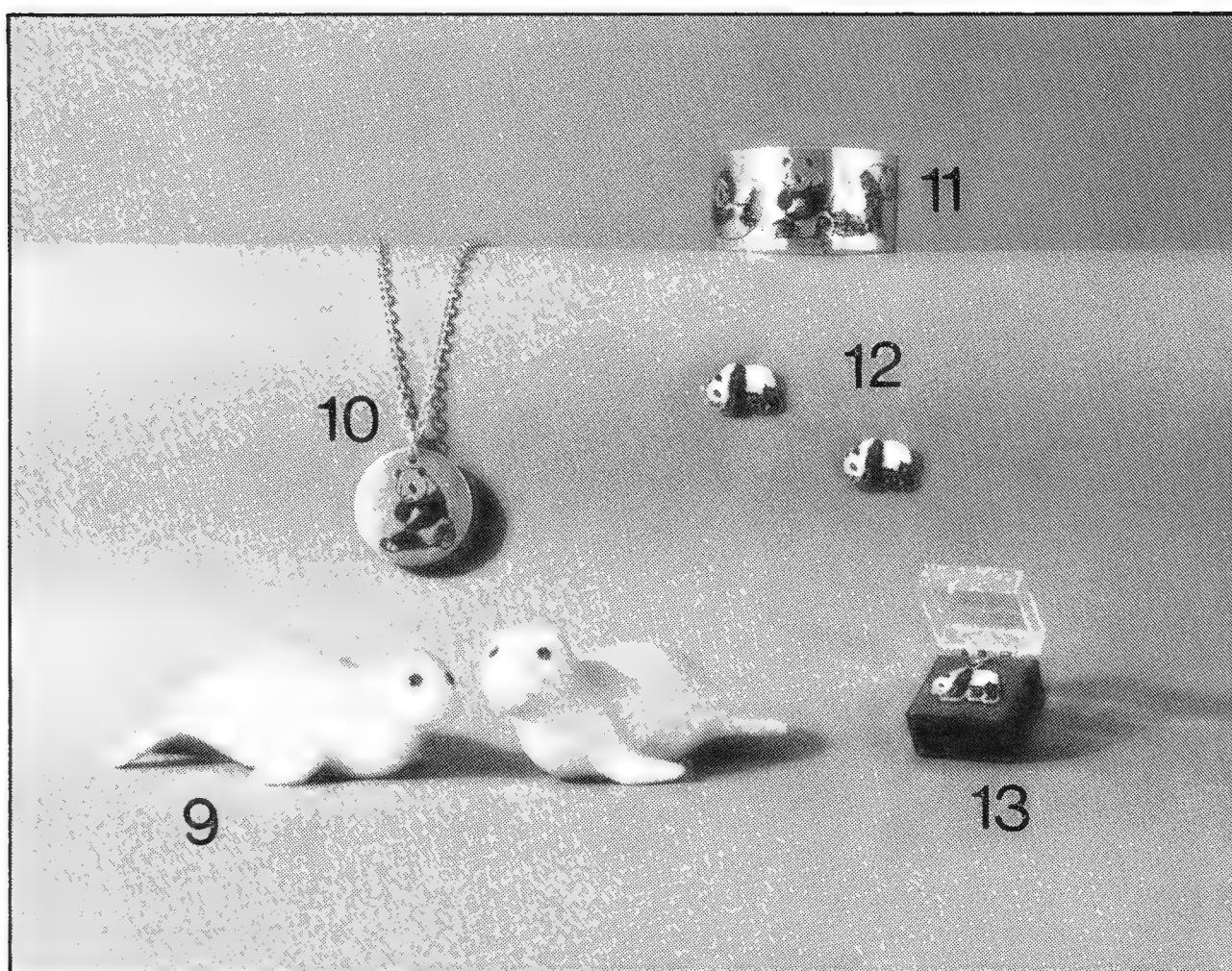
BOOKS

1. A lavishly-illustrated, deluxe "coffee table" book, **The Giant Panda** includes many rare photographs of baby pandas. A must for any panda-lover! **Hardcover (1)—\$29.95.**
2. Everything you've ever wanted to know about animal feeding—and more—is in Sally Tongren's **What's for Lunch? Animal Feeding at the Zoo**. The noted author (and FONZ Guide) takes you behind-the-scenes for a glimpse of a part of the Zoo visitors seldom see. Includes 60 photographs of Zoo animals and detailed descriptions of what each eats in the wild and at the Zoo. **Hardcover (2-A)—\$12.95. Softcover (2-B)—\$8.95.**
3. **Zobook** is the "official" full-color book about the National Zoo, its 3000 exotic animals, and the unusual people who care for them. Includes dozen of superb color photographs. **Softcover (3)—\$3.50.**



TOYS

4. America's most famous animal (he even has his own ZIP code!) can be yours. **Smokey Bear** is more than a foot high and made of soft plush for hugging. By R. Dakin & Company. **(4)—\$12.50.**
5. Sure to be baby's favorite toy, **Amanda Panda** is made of soft, safe latex. By R. Dakin & Company. **(5)—\$1.00.**
6. Designed just for FONZ, this eight-inch bean bag immortalizes the National Zoo's first **White Tiger**—famed Mohini. By R. Dakin & Company. **(6)—\$5.25.**
7. Put a panda bean bag in your life! **Picadilly Panda** is eight inches high and looks just like the real ones at the National Zoo. By R. Dakin & Company. **(7)—\$7.25.**
8. Made in China, this small **Wool Panda** is plush, four-and-a-half inches high, and makes an eye-catching Christmas ornament or crib toy. **(8)—\$1.95.**



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9. Start your own zoo! These lovely **Porcelain Seals** look like they've just come out of the water. Set of two. **(9)—\$3.95.**

10. This attractive **Panda Alumaline Pendant** features an exclusive panda design. **(10)—\$1.25.**

11. The adjustable **Panda Alumaline Bracelet**, companion to the panda pendant, features various views of the National Zoo's giant pandas. **(11)—\$1.25.**

12. The **Panda Lapel Pin** features color enamel on a rhodium pin with a clutch back and can be worn as a lapel pin or tie tac. **(12)—\$2.50.**

13. A lovely addition to any charm bracelet or necklace, this sterling silver **Panda Charm** with enamel design is sure to be treasured. Boxed. **(13)—\$10.25.**

GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

14. These beautiful **Panda Notecards** feature four exclusive drawings of the National Zoo's giant pandas by noted artist Warren Cutler. Printed on heavy white foldover cards, four-and-a-half by six inches. The packet includes eight cards (two of each design) with matching envelopes. **(14)—\$1.95.**

15. These exclusive jumbo ballpoint pens from the National Zoo are sure to be a hit! The **Jumbo Zoo Pen** is brown on beige and features a variety of Zoo animals. The **Jumbo Panda Pen** has a unique panda design. **Jumbo Zoo Pen (15-A)—\$1.50. Jumbo Panda Pen (15-B)—\$1.50.**

16. The FONZ giant panda logo is stitched in red or green on these two- by four-inch Panda Patches. **Red Panda Patch (16-A)—\$1.10. Green Panda Patch (16-B)—\$1.10.**

17. The **Endangered Species Card Game** is a full-color animal rummy game with lots of interesting facts about the endangered animal species on the cards. **(17)—\$1.95.**



DISTINCTIVE FONZ APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

18. An exclusive design for the National Zoo, the **Harp Seal T-Shirt** features a white baby seal on a blue T-shirt in a 50/50 cotton-polyester blend. Sizes from child's 2-4 through adult extra-large. *(Please indicate size.)* **Child's Harp Seal T-Shirt (18-A)—\$4.95. Adult's Harp Seal T-Shirt (18-B)—\$5.75.**

19. Designed to go anywhere in style and comfort, the **FONZ Knapsack** is made of feather-light cordura nylon imprinted with the FONZ panda logo. Extremely durable and abrasion-resistant. One size for child or adult. **(19)—\$25.50.**

20. These handsome **Panda T-Shirts** in a 50/50 cotton-polyester blend come in blue or white and in child's sizes 2-4 through adult extra-large. *(Please indicate size.)* **Child's White Panda T-Shirt (20-A)—\$3.95. Child's Blue Panda T-Shirt (20-B)—\$4.75. Adult White Panda T-Shirt with Green Trim (20-C)—\$5.25. Adult Blue Panda T-Shirt (20-D)—\$5.50.**

21. Exclusively designed for the National Zoo, the **Bengal Tiger T-Shirt** features an orange and black tiger on a beige 50-50 cotton/polyester T-shirt. Sizes from child's 2-4 through adult extra-large. *(Please indicate size.)* **Child's Bengal Tiger T-Shirt (21-A)—\$4.95. Adult Bengal Tiger T-Shirt (21-B)—\$5.75.**

22. Panda-lovers will love this twelve- by fifteen-inch natural canvas **Panda Tote Bag**. Can be used as a book bag or all-purpose tote bag. **(22)—\$3.95.**

23. A FONZ exclusive, the knitted wool **Panda Hat and Scarf** guarantee a panda-perfect winter for everyone! This exquisite set is custom-knitted by Nancy Eash. **Panda Hat (23-A)—\$13.00. Panda Scarf (23-B)—\$26.00.**

Order Form

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Washington, D.C. 20008**

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\$10-\$20	1.75	Merchandise Total			
\$20-\$50	2.00	Add For Shipping			
\$50-\$75	2.25				
Over \$75	2.50	Total Enclosed			

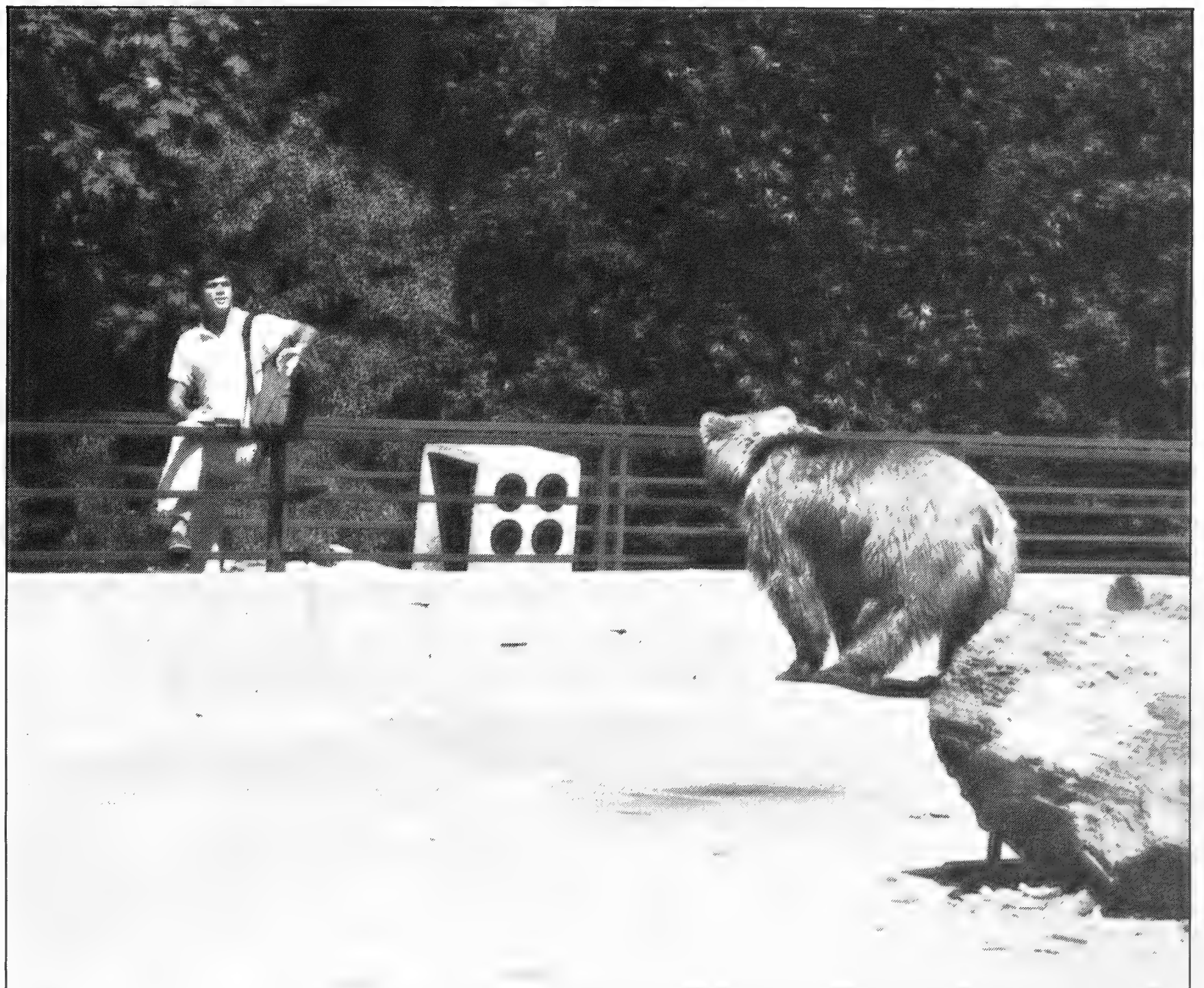
Through the Eyes of a FONZ Intern

Billy Branner

If you visited the National Zoo recently, you probably saw us. Wandering through the various exhibits and possibly “backstage” at some of them, we are college-age students looking for experience and excitement.

We were easy to spot. Usually we were equipped with books, pencils, pads, and other educational tools. We stayed at some exhibits for hours, occasionally taking notes, but mostly watching carefully the diverse behavior before us. We were here to contribute whatever possible, to do research, and to gain insight into the operation of a major zoological park.

With funding and assistance from the Friends of the National Zoo (and in my case with the cooperation of the Morehead Foundation of the University of North Carolina—



FONZ intern Billy Branner's research included behavioral observations of Kodiak bears, largest of the world's brown bears.

Chapel Hill), the National Zoo offered me one of their limited number of research traineeships. This fortunate opportunity did not materialize until I had completed a highly selective application process. In 1981, sixteen candidates were selected from a field of 171 applicants.

I was assigned with two other trainees to work under the direction of Dr. Edwin Gould, Curator of Mammals. You can imagine my surprise as I walked into his office at the Lion-Tiger Exhibit and saw a white tiger cooling herself by paddling in the moat just outside the window. For a student from North Carolina who had worked only with farm animals, this was definitely something to write home about!

I spent my first week getting to know the Zoo and its organization through special "behind-the-scenes" tours. I must have met fifty people that first week! Trainers, maintenance workers, administrators, keepers, and curators all offered advice, a friendly smile, and encouragement.

As the weeks went by, I developed a new appreciation for the talented staff at the Zoo. To see keeper Melanie Bond using sign language to communicate with an orangutan or to see collection manager Bess Frank orchestrate an entire crew of keepers is to witness true ability and a pro-

found understanding of what a zoo really is—a concrete tribute to the mutual existence of humans and animals.

My specific responsibilities focused on observational research with the gorillas and stereotypic—or predictable—behavior in animals.

When my internship began, the two female gorillas Femelle and M'wasi were sharing the same enclosure. At first they were together only briefly, but gradually the introductory period stretched to almost six hours a day. Two other interns and I were asked to establish a baseline on the social behavior the two gorillas were exhibiting toward one another. We perched on a wall behind their room and quietly watched them. Occasionally I saw them fighting or wrestling as each attempted to establish dominance. From the outset, M'wasi appeared to be the aggressor. After some brief encounters, Femelle would become more active, even to the point of hitting the walls with her fist and beating her chest loudly. I was caught off guard each time this happened, and the startling suddenness of her reaction sent my heart racing. Their acceptance of each other progressed steadily to the point where I even witnessed Femelle grooming M'wasi—a Zoo first!

The second project was more unusual. Dr. Gould suspected that

several animals were "neurotic." Evidence could be found in certain repeated, stereotypic behaviors they were exhibiting, and he suggested we study them. After watching a bear pace around his water hole for more than twenty minutes at a time, oblivious to the presence of food or the chatter of visiting children, I began to wonder myself. Other rhythmic patterns appeared in different animals, such as twitching, licking, and pacing. Observations were recorded, and apparent patterns were noted. A study of any complexity requires more than twelve weeks to complete, so I was conceivably laying the foundation for more exhaustive future research.

The flexibility of my daily routine gave me the opportunity to attend weekly seminars presented by Zoo scientists or other FONZ interns and to use the Zoo library.

If you wonder what happens to your money when you contribute to FONZ or buy something at the food or souvenir stands, remember that some of it goes to support such internship programs and other research projects.

By the end of my internship, I had seen and learned much. Being a FONZ intern is a unique and valuable experience—and a most unusual way to spend a summer!

The Non-Nomadic Gypsy

Billie Hamlet

Zoo historian Billie Hamlet offers another fascinating glimpse into the colorful characters who left their mark—or their monkey—on the National Zoo.

Almost from its beginning, the National Zoo accepted animals on deposit. Originally this was done to provide visitors with something to see. Congress appropriated money to buy land for the Park, but it then stifled the Zoo's growth by forbidding the purchase of animals.

Four years after its founding in 1899, the Zoo "wintered over" animals for the Adam Forepaugh Circus. (The first animals in the Park were Dunk and Gold Dust, cantankerous male Indian elephants donated by the same circus.) The arrangement provided that the circus would deliver animals to the Zoo, which would feed and care for them. Any young

born during their stay would become the property of the Zoo.

Among the seventy-six specimens that first winter were twenty-six monkeys, five baboons, four lions, four zebus, a tiger, two pumas, zebra, gemsbok, blackbuck, waterbuck, white-tailed gnu, tora antelope, three axis deer, a bactrian camel, three dromedary camels (one with nursing young), guanaco, alpaca, warthog, hippopotamus, five kangaroos, white pelicans, and a rare jewel—a Sumatran rhinoceros.

Zoo Superintendent Dr. Frank Baker estimated the cost of keeping the animals at \$2115. This included the salary of an extra keeper, the cost of modifying the main animal house to accommodate the hippopotamus, and the cost of building a barn to house the large number of hoofed stock.

This bountiful assemblage not only gave visitors many rare and unusual specimens to look at, but it was also slyly pointed out that the influx of animals and the resultant publicity in the fall would come at just the right moment for the Congressional budget hearings in December and January.

For many years, the Zoo continued to accept animals on deposit, mainly from people who were going on vacation and needed someone to look after their pets. Admiral Peary allowed the Zoo to maintain his collection of Eskimo dogs when they weren't mushing through the Arctic wastes. For many years the vast Gordon Gaver collection of reptiles spent their winters at the Zoo since Gaver's place in Thurmont, Maryland, closed during the cold months.

In 1961, the Zoo established a new policy—*no deposits*; donations yes, but no deposits. This new policy hit one man very hard. Ed Bernstein had been placing his capuchin monkey Gypsy on deposit at the Zoo for twenty years while he spent the winter in Pensacola, Florida.

Bernstein, also known as “the legless man,” spent the spring and summer panhandling from a small wooden platform in the 1200 block of F Street, N.W. Gypsy, who had been given to him by Evelyn Walsh MacLean of Hope diamond fame, wore an organ grinder’s monkey costume and rattled her tambourine or tipped her hat to those who dropped bills or coins into a tin cup or a cigar box.

Bernstein grew up in Atlanta, Georgia. One day when he was ten years old, he crawled beneath a train. When the train started to move, both his legs were cut off above the knees by the wheels. As a teenager in Pensacola, he rode around in a cart pulled by a goat, selling pencils and newspapers. He eventually made his way to Washington, where he and Gypsy became a regular downtown fixture.

Bernstein was a friendly man, and he and Gypsy became known to

nearly everyone in Washington. Many people went out of their way to stop for a chat and contribute something to his welfare. Although he had pencils for sale, no one was ever seen taking one in exchange for a contribution.

The blow fell in 1961 when Bernstein was told by the Zoo administration that he could no longer deposit Gypsy and would have to make other arrangements. It was suggested that he board her in a pet shop, but he found the idea totally repugnant. He pleaded, he cajoled, he even threatened in an effort to keep Gypsy in the Zoo.

Zoo personnel held fast to the new policy—and Bernstein was furious! Within a few hours, the director received a call from a very important person on Capitol Hill. He was told in no uncertain terms that the Zoo *would* keep Gypsy, and so it did for another fifteen years. Gypsy never left the Zoo again. Instead of being a winter deposit, she became a year-round resident—still on deposit.

Bernstein visited Gypsy periodically, and if he felt she was getting less than the best of care, he complained loudly. It was rumored that he even had one of the keepers peeling her

grapes! Gypsy was so set in her ways that every attempt to provide her with a cage mate failed. The fur around her waist that had been worn off by her belt never grew back. As she grew older, she became more arthritic and bad-tempered. It was finally necessary to take her off exhibit and put her in a cage in the basement of the Small Mammal House, where she spent her final years. She died quietly on October 5, 1976, having been a Zoo “guest” for thirty-five years. The next day Bernstein claimed her remains for a “proper” burial.

When he wintered in Florida, Bernstein attached artificial legs, dressed stylishly, and was obviously a man of property. Sometimes he sat in front of the bar he owned near the Naval Air Station. He talked with passersby about world events, the weather, local politics, and his trips to Europe and the Middle East.

In the spring, he packed away his artificial legs and again became the legless panhandler of Washington. When he died at 79 in 1979, he left an estate of nearly \$700,000—but not a penny was bequeathed to the Zoo that had taken care of Gypsy for so many years!

FONZ SAFARIS

Down-Under Safari Planned for January

Only one place in the world is home to kiwis and tuataras. And in January, you can join a FONZ safari to this remarkable island-nation—New Zealand.

The twenty-day adventure abounds with natural wonders—everything from parrots and penguins to geysers and glaciers. You'll fly in a ski plane over a massive glacier, enjoy front-row seats for sheep dog demonstrations, and go behind the scenes at zoos and wildlife sanctuaries throughout this Colorado-sized country. There's even an underground tour of a glow worm grotto!

In addition to the usual leader-escort, local wildlife experts will brief participants and conduct special tours. Unlike Washington in January, New Zealand is spring-like and perfect for plant- and animal-watching.

After two days in the seaside city of Auckland, a five-day tour of North Island by motorcoach takes in the thermal geysers of Rotorua, a remarkable waterbird sanctuary, an evening of Maori food and dancing,



The flightless kiwi of New Zealand is one of many wildlife wonders that will be seen on FONZ's upcoming safari to this unique island-nation.

and two days in the capital city of Wellington.

Traveling by steamer to South Island, participants tour beautiful Christchurch, explore glacier-studded Mount Cook National Park, and cruise the spectacular fjords of Milford Sound.

At Taiaroa Head, an afternoon will be spent watching the colorful antics

of colonies of penguins, seals, and albatrosses. Abundant wildlife will also be seen on visits to Gannet Sanctuary, Kapiti Island Reserve, Winter Gardens, Waterfall Park, and Esk Forest.

Cost for the January 22–February 10, 1982, tour is \$3,447 and includes all air, ship, and land transportation, deluxe hotels, sightseeing and entry fees, service charges, many meals, a

leader-escort, and a \$100 tax-deductible contribution to FONZ.

For additional details, contact the office of the FONZ Executive Director at 673-4950.

April in Galapagos For FONZ Members

By popular demand, the enchanted Galapagos Islands again are the destination of a FONZ safari in April 1982.

The two-week wildlife adventure has been arranged exclusively for FONZ members and represents the perfect itinerary, based on the experiences of two recent trips. April is considered the best month for weather and wildlife viewing.

If you like to swim with friendly sea lions, rub the necks of giant tortoises, or watch close-up the antics of blue-footed boobies, breeding frigate birds, and frolicking penguins, this is the trip for you. The wild birds of Galapagos are so "tame" they might perch on your shoulder!

The April 25-May 7, 1982, safari begins with three days in and around Quito, the picturesque capital of Ecuador. There will be visits to colorful Indian markets, a special lunch reception at a private hacienda, and an unforgettable all-day ride on the Autoferro (a bus on train wheels!)

through remote farms and villages and over the snow-capped Andes to the palm tree-lined port of Guayaquil.

Eight days will be spent cruising the Galapagos Islands, which have changed little since their wildlife wonders amazed Darwin. There are thousands of marine and land iguanas, sea lions and fur seals, red-footed boobies, balloon-necked frigate birds, Darwin's finches, penguins, flamingos, and—of course—the famed Galapagos tortoises.

Two-thirds of the resident birds and all but one reptile are found only in the Galapagos.

Each day the luxury cruise ship stops at a different island for hikes led by professional naturalists. Illustrated

lectures each evening highlight the day's events and previous upcoming attractions.

The cost of \$2,559 plus transportation to and from Miami includes everything but a few meals in Quito. The price also includes a FONZ executive leader throughout and a \$200 tax-deductible contribution to FONZ.

Nowhere in the world is the incredible splendor of unspoiled nature so dramatically visible. The Galapagos is a must for anyone interested in nature, wildlife, ecology, or evolution.

Space is limited, so please register early by contacting the office of the FONZ Executive Director at 673-4950.



The giant tortoises of the Galapagos, like much of the islands' wildlife, can only be seen there. A FONZ safari in April will follow in Darwin's footsteps.

BOOK NEWS

The Giant Panda, edited by Zhu Jing and Li Yangwen. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, 1980. \$29.95.

This remarkable book is the result of careful collaboration among some fifteen Chinese investigators. It represents the culmination of over two decades of research on the giant panda in the wild and in captivity by the Chinese. The account of the natural history of the panda is lavishly illustrated, including many photographs never published before.

There is a minimum of text. The photographs are captioned, but most speak for themselves. The book includes a listing of giant pandas that have been exhibited in zoos outside the People's Republic of China.

Panda habitat, resting sites, and food plants are illustrated in the opening portion of the book. The events concerning the breeding of pandas and artificial insemination occupy some sixty pages. The growth and development of panda cubs is thoroughly portrayed.

The die-off of pandas in the Wang Lang Reserve following the flowering and subsequent dying of the predominant bamboo species is graphically documented. Synchronous flowering followed by a die-off of the parental plant stock is a common attribute of bamboos in many parts of the world. The timing of bamboo flowering can vary widely from one region to the next. Until now, only the Wang Lang Reserve has been affected. There are several species of bamboo present in any given reserve, but the effect of the Wang Lang bamboo flowering was very severe. To what extent this poses a problem for the preservation of pandas in their remaining reserves is still to be investigated.

The illustrations are, for the most part, rather good. This book will be a welcome addition to the library of any nature lover.

John F. Eisenberg
Assistant Director for Animal Programs
National Zoological Park

Swift and Enduring: Cheetahs and Wild Dogs of the Serengeti by George and Lory Frame. New York: E. P. Dutton, 1981. \$16.50.

Probably no other groups of animals seize our imagination as do the predators. The safari member who misses his fair share of lion sightings feels cheated, no matter how many wildebeest are seen. Through the ages, man has attributed all sorts of qualities to the predatory animals—often with little or no evidence. But in the last twenty years, field studies have changed the image of many of these animals and have put their relationships with each other and with other members of their ecosystems into better perspective. The “noble” lion scavenges on occasion, the “cowardly” hyena is an effective predator in its own right, and the “ruthless” wild dog has as hard a time making a living as any other predator.

In this book, the outcome of four years' research in Tanzania's Serengeti National Park, George and Lory

Frame record their observations of wild dogs and cheetahs. Lory covers the wild dogs and George the cheetahs in more or less alternating chapters. The two species make a nice comparison. The social dogs contrast with the solitary cheetahs and, although both take similar prey, their hunting methods are very different.

Since both species seemed to have declining populations in the area, the Frames' study was directed to assessing their status in the Serengeti and learning more of their relations with the other, larger predators. Cheetahs and wild dogs both roam over large home ranges except when tied down by young, so the study was far from easy.

Part of the interest of the book lies in the insight into the difficulties—and sometimes delights—of behavioral observation. There are cold nights when the observed animal sleeps peacefully, hot noons when the observer swats flies and the animal uses the Land Rover as a sun shade, and frustrations when the animal vanishes into the dark while the Land Rover sits in a mud hole.

From these days and nights, vignettes of the study animals emerge. Cheetahs that will kill their own kind, a cheetah who was hand-reared and

found release into the wild too much to cope with, and the various packs of wild dogs with their complex and intriguing social life all become personalities.

Without sentimentality, the Frames engage the reader's interest in their subjects. It becomes important to the reader that wild dogs continue to trot across the plains and cheetahs perch on a high rock somewhere. Lory Frame's delightful pen and ink drawings are a marvelous complement to the black and white photographs.

Sally Tongren
FONZ House Guide

***Going Wild: Adventures of a Zoo Vet* by Dr. David Taylor.**
New York: Stein and Day, 1981.
\$12.95.

Don't begin David Taylor's new book *Going Wild* unless you have the next few hours free; you won't be able to put it down! Dr. Taylor writes well about his experiences—and they are fascinating.

Any veterinarian who deals with exotic patients will inevitably have problems the pet practitioner never even has to think about, let alone solve. Since Dr. Taylor's practice is literally worldwide, his particular

problems may assume gigantic proportions. A new case could well begin with the words, "First you fly to Mombasa. . . ." Reaching the patient may be the easy part. Once at the site, roadblocks to successful treatment appear with such regularity that they quickly become routine. Having to deal with untrained or—worse yet—disinterested local assistants can be incredibly dangerous or unbelievably funny.

One of Dr. Taylor's more interesting stories involves an apparently rabid onager (a wild ass) and a group of disgruntled natives who had been chastised for their treatment of another animal. The onager manages to tree the veterinarian and a friend in full view of the group. Rather than come to the rescue, the delighted natives use the top of a fence as a grandstand from which to cheer the onager toward the hoped-for moment when the doctor and his companion will lose their grip and be ground to pulp by the maddened beast.

The rest of the book is equally entertaining. There is something here for you whatever your animal interest may be. Give yourself a treat and read *Going Wild*.

Nell Ball
FONZ House Guide

FONZ NEWS AND CALENDAR

Christmas shoppers will find one-of-a-kind animal art treasures for sale at the FONZ Bookstore/Gallery in the Zoo's Education Building. The second annual *The Potter and the Beast* exhibit through December 31 features the work of Susan Greenleaf.

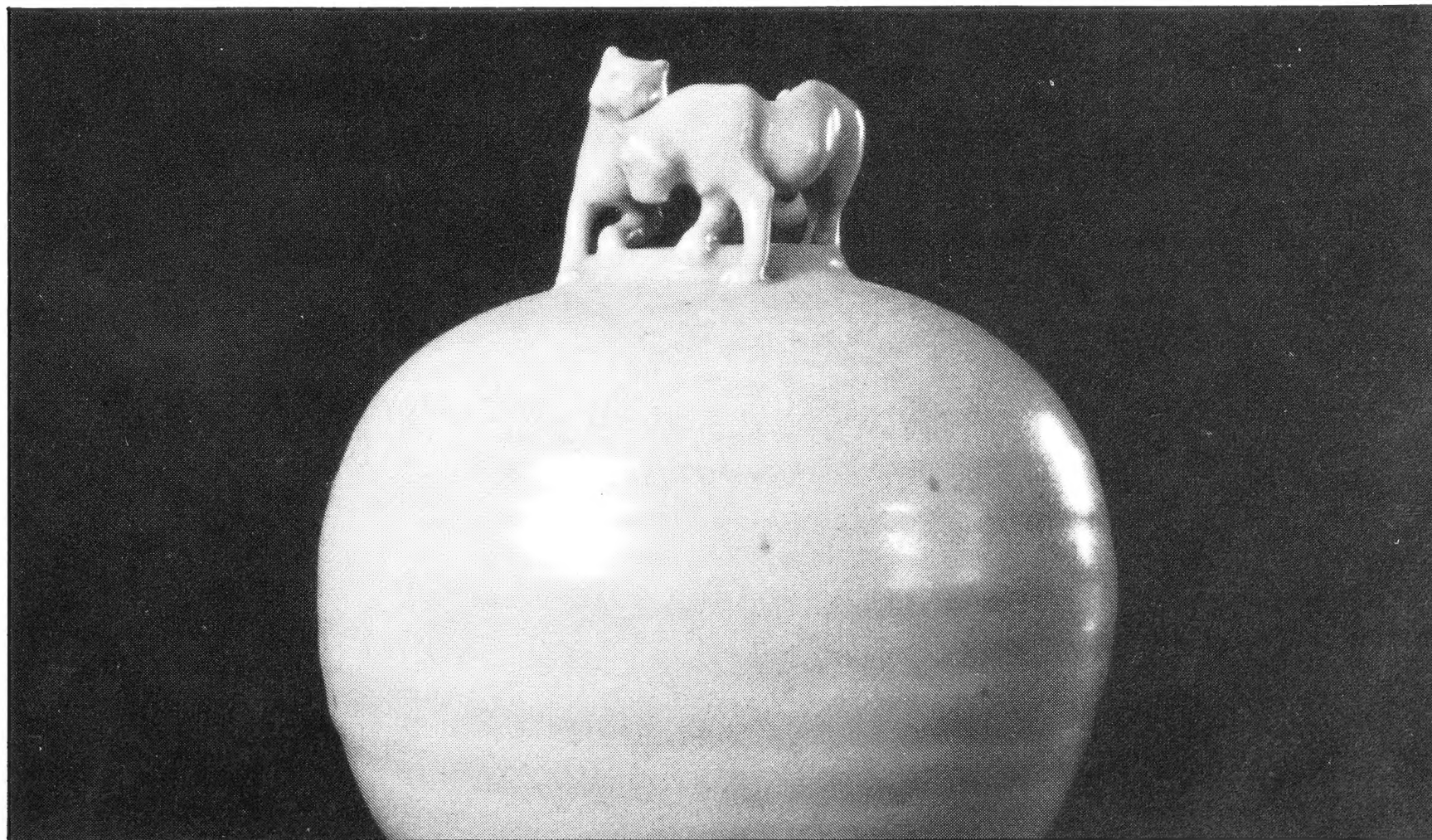
This special exhibit features animal-themed ceramics as interpreted by the potter's hand. Each original work incorporates some animal form. The pieces range from delicate porcelain miniatures to large clay vessels.

"In my second exploration of the theme of animal creation as interpreted

by the potter's hand," Ms. Greenleaf explains, "I am striving for two effects: a portrayal of the essence of the character of the animal and the vessel, revealing the majesty and mystery behind the deep dark eyes of wild beasts and behind the very spirit of the clay."

Susan Greenleaf has exhibited in Switzerland and in galleries and museums throughout the Washington area.

The FONZ Bookstore/Gallery is open every day except Christmas from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



November 1981

22/Sunday

Sunday Afternoons at the National Zoo: "Bird Business" **

December 1981

6/Sunday

Sunday Afternoons at the National Zoo: "Animal Ornaments" **

13/Sunday

FONZ Christmas Tree Decorating Party*

14/Monday

Audubon Lecture: "Sign Language Conversations with Chimpanzees" *

20/Sunday

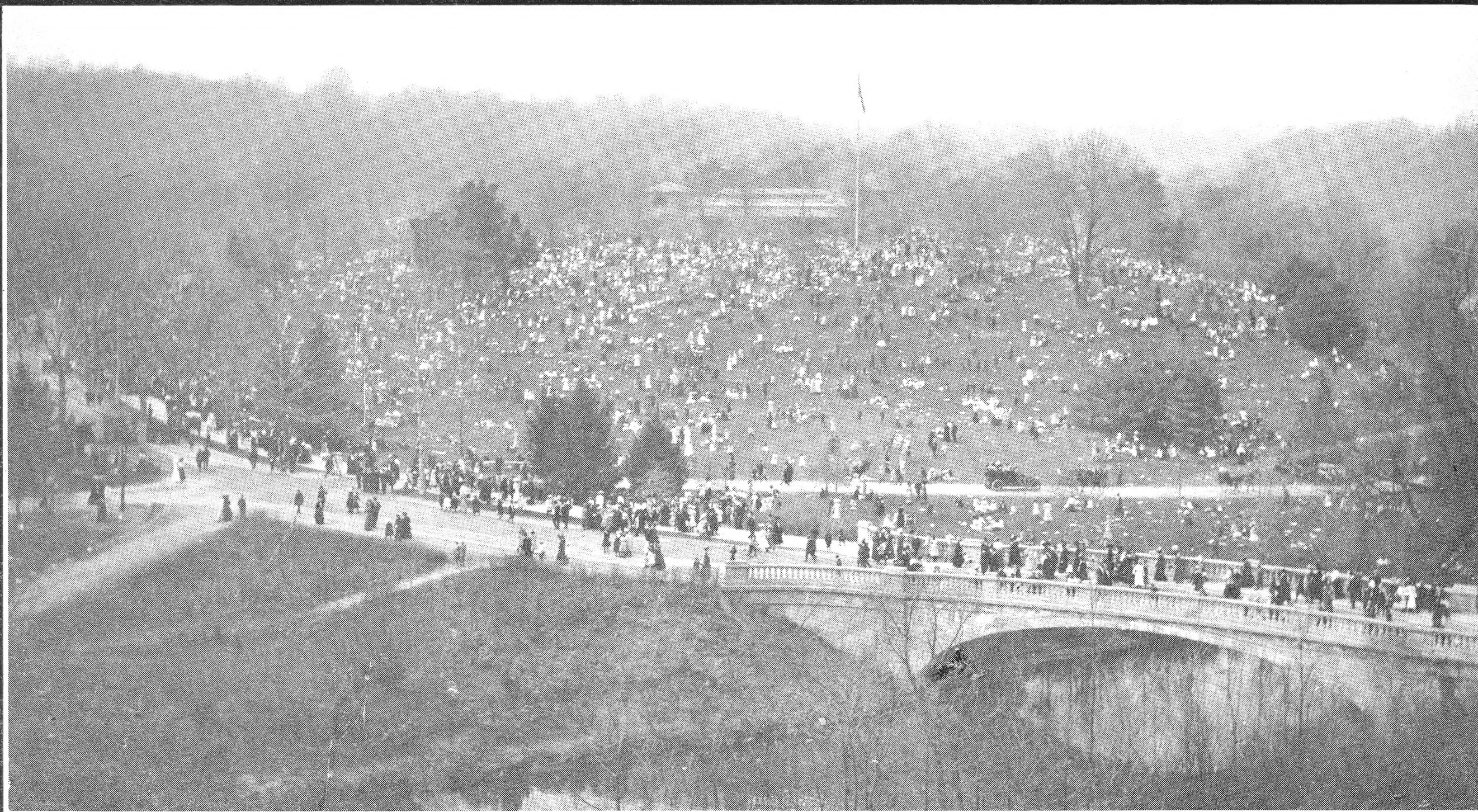
Sunday Afternoons at the National Zoo: "Holiday Tails" **

25/Friday

Christmas Day—Zoo closed

* Advance reservations and/or fee required. For additional information, call 673-4960.

** All Sunday Afternoons at the National Zoo programs are held at the Education Building from 1:00-3:30 p.m.



Thousands of visitors enjoyed Easter Monday 1910 on Lion-Tiger Hill. The 1982 ZooGoer Calendar features many fascinating photographs from the colorful history of the National Zoo. Watch for it soon!

**Friends of the National Zoo
National Zoological Park
Washington, D.C. 20008**

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